Public Notice

Applicant:

Date: City of Brook Park

Published: **Expires**:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

In Reply Refer To:

Buffalo District CELRB-CO-R RE: 97-494-0067(3) Section: OH 404

Application for Permit under Authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The City of Brook Park, 6161 Engle Road, Brook Park, Ohio 44142 has applied for a Department of the Army permit to fill 5.48 acres of wetlands, and 709.7 linear feet of Abram Creek and 502 linear feet of two unnamed streams, to construct the proposed Aerospace Parkway around Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. The proposal would include portions of Ruple Parkway, Grayton Road, Kolthoff Drive and I-X Center Drive in the City of Brook Park, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

A total of 20.8 acres of wetlands exist on the study site. Of the 5.48 acres of wetlands to be filled, 1.50 acres are forested, while the remaining 3.98 acres are mixed emergent/scrub-shrub wetlands. stream construction activities include 5 separate stream crossings as follows:

- (1) excavate 66 feet of stream, and install a 190-foot box culvert and 36 feet of rock channel protection in Abram Creek just west of Grayton Road for a total stream impact of 292 linear feet;
- (2) excavate 13 feet of stream, and install a 52.5-foot box culvert and 31.2 feet of rock channel protection in Abram Creek at Kolthoff Road, for a total stream impact of 96.7 linear feet;
- (3) relocate 321 linear feet of Abram Creek to construct a ramp from the Aerospace Parkway to State Route 237;
- (4) install a 64-foot box culvert and 16 feet of rock channel protection in an unnamed tributary of Abram Creek just southwest of I-X Center Drive;
- (5) install a 266-foot box culvert and 10 feet of rock channel protection in a second unnamed tributary of Abram Creek, south of I-X Center Drive.

As mitigation for the proposed impacts to 5.48 acres of wetlands and 1212 linear feet (0.37 acre) of streams (Abram Creek and the unnamed tributaries) the applicant has proposed to fund the restoration of 8.3 acres of wetlands at the Carlisle Consolidated Mitigation Site, operated by Lorain County Metroparks, located at Diagonal Road in LaGrange Township, Lorain County, Ohio. In addition, the applicant has proposed to preserve 0.65 acre of wetlands and approximately 5250 feet of Abram Creek within an undeveloped 40.1-acre City Park located immediately south of the proposed Aerospace Parkway. The City Park,

including the existing streams and wetlands, would be preserved in its present, undeveloped state (excepting the possible establishment of recreational foot trails) in perpetuity through a conservation easement to be held by Cleveland Metroparks.

Location and details of the above described work are shown on the attached maps and drawings.

Questions pertaining to the work described in this notice should be directed to Alan R. Anacheka-Nasemann, who can be contacted by calling (716) 879-4319, or by e-mail at: alan.r.anacheka-nasemann@usace.army.mil

The following authorization(s) may be required for this project:

Water Quality Certification (or waiver thereof) from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

There is one registered historic property or a property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that will be affected by this project. The proposed project will result in the loss of the S. Danald House, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In addition, available evidence indicates that the proposed work will not affect a species proposed or designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior as threatened or endangered, nor will it affect the critical habitat of any such species.

This notice is promulgated in accordance with Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, parts 320-330. Any interested party desiring to comment on the work described herein may do so by submitting their comments, in writing, so that they are received no later than 4:30 pm on the expiration date of this notice.

Comments should be sent to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, New York 14207-3199, and should be marked to the attention of Alan R. Anacheka-Nasemann, or by e-mail at: alan.r.anacheka-nasemann@usace.army.mil. A lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the work as proposed.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be fully considered during the public interest review for this permit application. All written comments will be made a part of the administrative record. Due to resource limitations, this office will normally not acknowledge the receipt of comments or respond to individual letters of comment.

Any individual may request a public hearing by submitting their written request, stating the specific reasons for holding a hearing, in the same manner and time period as other comments.

Public hearings for the purposes of the Corps permit program will be held when the District Commander determines he can obtain additional information, not available in written comments, that will aid him in the decision making process for this application. A Corps hearing is not a source of information for the general public, nor a forum for the resolution of issues or conflicting points of view (witnesses are not sworn and cross examination is prohibited). Hearings will not be held to obtain information on issues unrelated to the work requiring a permit, such as property ownership, neighbor disputes, or the behavior or actions of the public or applicant on upland property not regulated by the Department of the Army. Information obtained from a public hearing is given no greater weight than that obtained from written comments. Therefore, you should not fail to make timely written comments because a hearing might be held.

The decision to approve or deny this permit request will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Paul G. Leuchner Chief, Regulatory Branch

NOTICE TO POSTMASTER: It is requested that this notice be posted continuously and conspicuously for 30 days from the date of issuance.